/328 cont./

881 [304] 561 301 With the onset of puberty both sexes have the tribal rings cut on their cheeks; apparently no further ceremonies take place in connection with this. From then on the maidens wear the complete costume of the women, and the cotton pendant ornament is given the red color instead of the black, which was proper for children. The youths live by themselves; where there is a mask house, they spend the day in it and sleep there at night or beside a fire in its vicinity. Where there is none, they sleep beside a fire away from the village. In small settlements with one or two houses, they, too, live in the house.

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855 Parents love their children very much. It is touching to observe with what tenderness they cling to them, and how, far from them, they are constantly with them in their thoughts. When Pedro received the (false) message that his children had died, he scarcely spoke for hours and even after that he was noticeably more silent than he had been otherwise. The mothers play with their small children; I even observed the kissing of children. All conceivable ornamentation is put on the little ones; the older the children become, the less ornamentation is put on, until, finally, married persons give it up almost entirely. One woman about 50 years old laughed at her own vanity when she put chains of beads which I had given to her grandchild around her own neck and looked down on them with pleasure. This mania /329/ for adorning children goes so far that they hang around their necks large pieces of broken colorful porcelain plates, without being aware of the danger (1). "Boys mean more

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1. This custom is already reported for the Šambioá by Rufino in the year 1846 (Rev. trim. X, p. 196).

to the father, the mother would rather have girls" (Kuriš). The father teaches the son, the mother the daughter. Contrary to other reports, I was assured that beating as a punishment also occurs. Otherwise I observed only the denial of food as a means of punishment (in Village 17, because the boy in question did not go fishing, but loitered around me in the camp).

861